

Town of Whately Fuel Efficient Vehicle Policy

DEFINITIONS

Combined city and highway MPG (EPA Combined fuel economy): Combined Fuel Economy means the fuel economy from driving a combination of 43% city and 57% highway miles and is calculated as follows:

$$=1/((0.43/\text{City MPG}) + (0.57/\text{highway MPG}))$$

Drive System: The manner in which mechanical power is directly transmitted from the drive shaft to the wheels. The following codes are used in the drive field:

- AWD = All Wheel Drive: four-wheel drive automatically controlled by the vehicle powertrain system.
- 4WD = 4-Wheel Drive: driver selectable four-wheel drive with 2-wheel drive option
- 2WD = 2-Wheel Drive

Heavy-duty vehicle: A vehicle with a manufacturer's gross vehicle weight rating (GVWR) of more than 8,500 pounds.

POLICY STATEMENT

In an effort to reduce the Town of Whately's fuel consumption and energy costs the Board of Selectmen hereby adopts a policy to purchase only fuel efficient vehicles to meet this goal.

PURPOSE

To establish a requirement that the Town of Whately purchase only fuel efficient vehicles for municipal/school use whenever such vehicles are commercially available and practicable.

APPLICABILITY

This policy applies to all divisions and departments of the Town of Whately.

GUIDELINES

All departments shall purchase only fuel-efficient vehicles for municipal use whenever such vehicles are commercially available and practicable for their performance.

The Town of Whately will maintain an annual vehicle inventory of ALL vehicles and a plan for acquiring any non-exempt vehicles with vehicles that meet, at a minimum, the fuel efficiency ratings contained in the most recent guidance for Criteria 4 published by the MA Department of Energy Resources' Green Communities Division.

This Green Communities' Guidance for Criteria 4 must be checked for updates prior to ordering replacement vehicles.

Exemptions

- Heavy-duty vehicles. Examples include fire-trucks, ambulances, and some public works trucks that meet the definition of Heavy-duty vehicle.
- Police cruisers, passenger vans and cargo vans are exempt from this criterion as fuel efficient models are not currently available. However, we commit to purchasing fuel efficient police cruisers, passenger vans and cargo vans when they become commercially available. Police and fire department administrative vehicles are NOT exempt and must meet fuel efficient requirements.

INVENTORY

The vehicle inventory list for all town vehicles is attached to this policy as Appendix A. This inventory will be updated on an annual basis and provided to the Green Communities Division.

FUEL EFFICIENT VEHICLE REPLACEMENT PLAN

Presently the Town of Whately, including our public schools, has no non-exempt vehicles. When replacing our present exempt vehicles, the Town of Whately will commit to, whenever possible and practicable, include in any specification a reasonable MPG requirement so as to help the town meet its Energy Reduction Plan. The Commonwealth of Massachusetts Procurement laws will dictate on whether this MPG specification will make any bid non-competitive.

ALTERNATIVE COMPLIANCE

As the Town of Whately has all exempt vehicles, we are seeking Alternative Compliance for this criteria based on the following. Due to our rural location, Whately is unable to offer incentives to use public transportation because no such transportation exists in our rural community.

1. Whately has developed an inventory of all registered vehicles in each department.
2. The annual miles drive (or hours used) and total fuel consumption will be determined in the fiscal year of 2013 beginning on July 1, 2012. We don't have mileage data only use data at this time.
3. Whately has adopted a policy, applicable to all employees, for anti-idling of town vehicles.
4. Bicycle racks have been installed at Herlihy Park and the Elementary School to encourage bicycle as a mode of travel. Bicycle racks will also be installed at the Library and Center School Office Building.

5. The Whately Board of Selectmen will determine the feasibility of switching several vehicles from diesel to a common bio-diesel blend such as B5 or B20 which contain between 5 and 20 percent non-diesel fuels such as ethanol.

ANTI-IDLING POLICY

Whately hereby adopts the provisions of Massachusetts General Law Chapter 90, Section 16A and has instructed all employees of this policy.

Approved by the Board of Selectmen, June 14, 2012 Amended Nov. 13, 2012